



**“Eye on AMC”**

# **U.S. Army Materiel Command**

*The Army's Premier Provider of Materiel Readiness*

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## **APG finishes cleaning, decontaminating mustard agent containers**

Workers at the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., have safely completed cleaning and decontaminating all 1,817 containers that once stored mustard agent at the Edgewood Area of APG.

The Ton Container Cleanout process is the second and final phase of destruction operations at ABCDF. This made APG the first of the Army's eight chemical demilitarization facilities in the continental U.S. to remove the risk posed by its chemical stockpile. As a result of completing the final phase of destruction operations, ABCDF will now fully enter an anticipated two-plus year closure phase.

## **MFSC called to active duty**

Soldiers from the Multifunctional Support Command, Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., recently deployed to Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. The MFSC is an Army Reserve unit attached to the Army Field Support Command and provides logistics and military planning support when activated. The MFSC Soldiers will spend the next 12 to 18 months executing the AFSC mission in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

## **Effective stewardship earns Tobyhanna environmental award**

Past successes and aggressive proposals were key factors that recently earned Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., the Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for Pollution Prevention in the Industrial Installation category.

In addition to submitting pollution prevention successes, such as exceeding the Army's goal of installations recycling 40 percent of its solid waste stream by 7 percent, Tobyhanna submitted three proposals new to the depot, says Mike Parrent, a chemist in the depot's Environmental Management Division.

"One proposal, to purchase a fuel cell truck, was not approved, but our proposals to install a vegetative, or green, roof and use fuel cell generators, were approved," he said. "The green roof was the first proposal accepted by the Army. Tobyhanna will be the first depot to have a green roof."

## **Picatinny recognized for excellence**

In a recent Pentagon ceremony, Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey presented the Gold Army Performance Excellence Award to the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. The Army Performance Excellence Award is presented each year to the organization whose overall performance and improvement efforts were, in the opinion of a panel of select judges, the best in the Army.

"We, as the Army, cannot be satisfied with the status quo. ARDEC has taken decisive steps toward establishing a culture of continuous improvement," said Harvey.

## **Did you know... "Black History Month"**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau:

- In 2002 there was \$92.7 billion in receipts for black-owned businesses, up 30 percent from 1997. The rate at which black-owned businesses increased their receipts was higher than the national average (22 percent).
- The number of black-owned businesses in 2002 was 1.2 million, up by more than 370,000, or 45 percent, since 1997. An estimated 94,862 such firms had paid employees, with receipts of \$69.8 billion or about \$735,586 per firm.
- Black business owners were more likely to hold graduate degrees when they started or acquired ownership in their business (about 1-in-4) than the national average (19 percent).

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